



Life Simplified

The Cure for the Disorganized Home

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Thanksgiving Checklist

3 Weeks Until Thanksgiving

- Deep clean your kitchen, especially the oven, fridge and freezer
- Clean the main areas the guests will be in.
- Having guest stay overnight clean: guest rooms and guest bathrooms.
- Declutter and organize your entryway and coat closet
- Create a guest list. When family and friends RSVP, ask about dietary restrictions and food allergies.
- Plan the big Turkey Day menu. Make it easy on yourself- have everyone bring a menu item. If you want to use a new recipe, test it ahead of time.
- Create a grocery shopping list. For easy shopping, organize and order the list into the sections of your local grocery store
- Purchase extra containers for leftovers. Foil casserole dishes allow guests to take home leftovers without having to worry about returning your dishes.
- If you plan to order a turkey or ham, call ahead and schedule your order now.
- Start buying the drinks

2 Weeks Until Turkey Day

- Shop for the non-perishable items on your grocery list.
- Gather serving dishes and assign each to a menu item with a Post-It note.
- Schedule an appointment with your hair stylist or nail salon the day before Thanksgiving.

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- Inventory your tableware and glassware to ensure you have enough for each of your guests.
- If you need rent additional chairs, folding tables, serving dishes, warmers, or linens, call the party supply store and reserve your rental now.

1 Week To Go Before Thanksgiving

- Calculate when you need to start thawing the turkey.
- Plan seating arrangements.
- Clear space in your refrigerator and freezer.
- Wipe down appliances, wash potholders and dish towels, clean trivets and glasses.
- Clean your coffee maker by running vinegar through it and then rinsing it twice with fresh water.
- Set the table or gather everything you'll need and place it near the table to make setting it the night before Thanksgiving as simple as possible.
- Prepare the brine for your turkey.
- Make or buy extra ice and store in the freezer.

2 Days Before Thanksgiving

- Chill the wine and champagne.
- Finish shopping for food and pick up all your orders from butchers, bakeries and specialty food shops.
- Fill the table's salt and pepper shakers.
- If you're brining your turkey, put the bird in the brine and keep chilled in the refrigerator.
- Prep ingredients for recipes.
- Prepare all the soups and desserts. Store in airtight containers.

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1 More Day To Go

- Make all the side dishes, including the stuffing, that can be prepared ahead of time.
- Spot clean the common areas of your home. Disinfect remote controls, phones, door handles and light switches. Empty trash bins.
- Create a serving area for beer, wine, mixed drinks, desserts and coffee.

Thanksgiving Day!

- Enjoy

Cleanup

- Let everyone who wants to pitch in help with cleanup.
- Clear the table, wash platters and return dishes to guests.
- Pack leftovers and store in the refrigerator.

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